Strange News from th' *Indies*: VIII 7

OR,

East-India Passages further discovered.

August in Jubile, 1650. *A Jove principium.*

He hath shewed thee O man, what is good: And what the Lord doth require of thee: Surely to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God: But, Because sentence against an evill worke is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men are fully set in them to do evill.

As some peradventure upon serious perusall and ponder, may apprehend from this briefe, uncouth, and unpolished Discourse; partly discovering

The Manner, and Tenour of *East-India-Trade* hitherto: Together, with part of The wofull, and sad sufferings of *William Courten* Esquire, &c.

Written for *Information*, *Confirmation*, and *Confutation*: By a constant Well-willer, and continuall sufferer for Truth, and publike good. *J. D.*

Therein imploring and intimating to all in Authority, and others, for speedy Justice; And a right understanding in judgement and practice, and by principles, and grounded reasons, pointing at a foundation, and regulation of that hitherto much abused *East-India-Trade*, so vast, spacious, necessary, and of extraordinary high concernment to enrich, and advance Kingdomes, and Commonwealths, being the Trade of trades, the Magazeen of Merchandizers, the honour of Nations, and the glory of this world, &c.



Piety, } par
Policy } pari

{ *Generalis vicarius Dei in terris* No
{ *Generalis Comitatis East indiæ*, &c.

Whether bar
better, *Wisd.*
Apoc. c. 13. v.

BIBLIOTECA BODLEIANA

LONDON, Printed for *Stephen Bowtel*, at the Bible in *Popes-Head-Alley*. 1652.

To all publike ſpirits, and ſincere lovers of Truth.

More particularly, To the Honourable Henry Darley *Eſq;*
a Member of Parliament, and Councell of State.

SIR,

UPon ſecond thoughts, and better advice and conſideration, I have altered my reſolution; and the generall and particular diſcharge of my duty, and conſcience, now prompts me to preſent you with this Tragical Diſcourſe (being part of the fruits of my 31. years *Eaſt-India experience* and obſervation) and the rather, becauſe of your knowne ability and alacrity to publike good; as alſo your ſerious and often obſervation of ſome late paſſages in relation to the principall ſuffering ſubject thereof, (this Commonwealth excepted) whoſe caſe and cauſe ſeems to cry aloud to heaven and earth for Juſtice and Judgement, ſaying, (Care ye not that we periſh?) When will it once be, *That judgement ſhall run as a river, and righteouſneſſe as a mighty ſtream:* And although a good foundation of *Eaſt-India* Trade was alſo intended and laid by that Mirror of Merchandizers (and ſo then an incomparable Commonwealths-man) Sir *William Courten* Knight, deceaſed: As appears by his unparalleld Expeditions to the *Weſt*, as well as the *Eaſt-Indies* (the chiefeſt deſirable Trophees of this whole univerſe, to advance and inrich a Nation) yet withall to conſider how in his life time, himſelfe was unjuſtly diſpoſſeſſed of the one by the late King, and his Courtiers, or Favourites: And ſince how *William Courten* Eſquire, his ſon, hath likewiſe been as unjuſtly oppreſt in the other, by the government of an illegall Patent (derived from the ſame power) to his utter undoing, adminiſters matter of aſtoniſhment (yea even to very heathens in my knowledge) Becauſe Juſtice and Judgement between man and man, is not executed ſpeedily. But leſt by my ſilence I ſhould become acceſſary to his and others ſufferings, therfore I tender the diſpoſal of the ſequel to your moſt ſerious and judicious wiſdome and diſcretion: You may pleaſe to perceive with me, that I could have put it in another dreſſe, of a deeper dye, and withall hold the rules of truth and ſobriety; but I chuſe rather to prejudice many by a modeſt forbearance, then offend any by harſh and unpleaſing expreſſions, conceiving here is matter ſufficient to convince the oppreſſors of the errours of their wayes, if they conſider (*intr. al.*) but their laſt deſtruction of trade and ſupplies, and ſo of the Plantation, and diſcoveries of *Madagaſcar*,

and adjacent Islands *Assada*, and the rest, which is now become their first and onely foundation, and best hopes of the present Traders, in order to advance themselves and this Commonwealth, from the hidden ruine, and remaining basis of the abovelaid parties, as long since they were plainly and truely informed: And I am perswaded Heaven will not alwayes suffer Earth, injurious Earth thus to passe unregarded, unrewarded, but in his due time stir up some in highest Authority, of approved Excellency and Eminency (that knows and remembers they bear not the sword for nought) to question and determine the whole matter, and forthwith order the securing of *Carwar*, for advance of Trade, and good of this Commonwealth.

And seeing the principall matters and passages in difference are extrinsecall and extrajudiciall, and so (humbly conceived improper for, and remediesse here by any Court of Justice or equity (much lesse for any Commission thence proceeding) because his just right and propriety to Trade, Factories, and Plantations in both *Indies*, are things in Nature and Eminency co-essentiall and consubstantiall to, and with the being, and well-being of a Commonwealth (and so to be accounted) being rather honours and emoluments onely proper to the Crowne and Dignity of a Nation for protection, defence, and preservation; and in no wise (as formerly) to be referred to the neglect, or weak endeavours of an Incorporation, or particular person for oppression, losse, and destruction, as sundry instances in this ensuing Tract may sufficiently evince: But in this (as in all other) I most humbly submit to better judgements. And seeing moreover, that both the father and the son (at so dear a rate) have opened a door, and prescribed a way for Trade to perpetuity (which no other would, or could do) whereby this Nation in time may become the Mirror and Terror of Kingdoms & Countries, therefore I well hope such deserts (in point of justice and equity, as well as incouragement to others) will not alwayes lye in the dust, but be had in high and honorable esteem & remembrance by the most wise, prudent, and best affected, and rewarded accordingly; Which doubtlesse will be well pleasing to God, and great rejoycing to good people, and so procure Heavens blessing upon all your designs, ever accompanying such acts of Justice and Mercy: And these are the prayers, and perswasions, hopes, and earnest desires of him who willingly remains, *Sir*,

Your very humble Servant,

John Darell.

Mr. *Courten's* voluntary and free tender to his Creditors, the 25th. of Febr. 1645.

Worthy Sirs:

MY great losses and misfortunes, heightned by the calamities of the times, being too eminently known unto all, (and especially to you my Creditors) who at present are most unhappily become Sufferers with me therein, though much against my will. Yet to the end (that though I perish) you might not be too great loosers by me, my earnest desire is; That you will be pleased to take my languishing, and almost ruined condition into your serious consideration, and that for the remedying thereof, you will be pleased to take my estate into your care and custodies, to prevent the totall ruine thereof, and therein the absolute losse of your Debts, which I hope by Gods blessing, and your assistance may yet be preserved, if you will vouchsafe to concurre with me in the managing and preservation thereof, either in the way I have offered in assigning my estate into your hands, for the good of my Creditors, and for payment of my just Debts; or if you shall dislike that Way, in any other way or means you shall direct, that may conduce to that purpose, which is the chiefest ayme I have, as shall appear unto you, and all the world if you shall please to accept thereof, and afford your assistance therein.

What I have suffered already in the perplexity of my soule, since my Fathers death, for the effecting thereof, God only yet knowes; but I hope my reall dealing shall in some measure make it manifest unto you also, if by your favours I may have opportunity so to doe. And whereas you may be jealous that the ship William (wherein I have interest) that is gone to Ligorne, was sent thither out of some intent to defraud my Creditors of my estate therein, towards the payment of their just Debts; That I may take off that scruple, I doe hereby protest I have no such intention, nor never had, but am and will be willing that my estate therein, shall be assigned to you towards the payment of my just Debts, and that if you will afford me your assistance therein, you shall have a cleare discovery thereof, and of all other my estate in the world; And not only so, but shall have my utmost assistance in the getting in the same, wherein you shall finde me act the part of a faithfull Servant, and preferre my Creditors just satisfaction before my owne subsistance, or the being of those that are most near and dear unto me, and in granting this favour, you shall ever oblige

Your Debtor and Servant,

To the Right Worſhipfull Ja. Winſtanley, Geo. Cotton, Tho. Bales, *Eſquires, and others, Commiſsioners and Ingagers concerning* (*his much honoured friend, and late Imployer*) Wil. Courten *Eſquire.*

Gentlemen,

IT ſeems pleaſing to Providence, and preſent Authority, to diſpoſe and intruſt you with the management of the ſtrangely diſtracted eſtate of Mr. *Courten*; (A matter of moment, and high concernment as well to the Commonwealth in generall, as himſelfe and Creditors in particular (as Mr. *Courtens* foregoing Copy of his proffer to his Creditors, and this enſuing Tract will partly diſcover) but ſo intricated, intangled and inveſted (if not alienated and inverted) that it cannot quickly and eaſily be apprehended or diſcerned, what a difficult and uncouth buſineſſe you have undertaken: But as formerly, ſo now, my love to truth, and reſpect to the juſtneſſe and integrity of his cauſe, and proceedings (as yet I apprehend them) hath moved me to compoſe this following Diſcourſe, and to the utmoſt of my ability to informe and poſſeſſe you and others, of the true ſtate and condition of ſome forreign and late tranſactions thereto appertaining (things not frequent in your ordinary practiſe) leſt you or others ſhould be perplexed with ſuits, or ſurprized, and circumvented by future Contracts, Conceſſions, or Concluſions: And this I thought neceſſary in diſcharge of my duty, and a good conſcience, whether publick or private, and very materiall and pertinent to ſundry perſons, and preſent occaſions, as hereafter more at large appeareth. And ſo I humbly refer, and ſubmit my further ſervice, and this ſequell to your judicious conſiderations to command and conceive thereof, as God and your own diſcretions can beſt direct you.

John Darell.

This enſuing Generall Diſcourſe brancheth it ſelfe in ſubſtance (*inter alia*) *into thoſe following particulars.* viz.

The

The Content's partly theſe.

1 *That as the foundation and Government of* Dutch East-India *Trade, and* Engliſh East-India *Traffique are diverſe or contrary, ſo are their ſucceſſes, even to admiration, which alone would require a large Volume.*

2. *That in all Revolutions of Trade, and Times:* Infancy, State, *and* Declination, *and ſince depredations, and detentions,* China, Portugall, Mallabar, *and* Madagaſcar, *have much ſupported their Trade and Shipping.*

3. *That by neglect of* China *and* Japan, *the Spice Iſlands,* Plea National. *and* Ormus, *with* Caſhmee Caſtle, *and Cuſtomes, with neglect and deſtruction of Plantations, &c. Trade was loſt, Treaſure (elſewhere procurable) hence abundantly exhauſted, generall Adventurers undone, or much impoveriſhed, and Common-wealth thereby abuſed, and ſo hitherto continued.*

4 *That the expedition of Sir* William Courten (*if ſupported*) *was excellent, Honourable, and profitable to East-India Companie, and Common-wealth, but very unkindly requited hitherto, by both injuries and delayes, as hereafter plentifully declared, being thereby damnified* per *Engliſh, about* 150000. li. *As by the Charge, Affidavit, and that cruell, and unreaſonable (I ſay not Helliſh Agreement) appeareth, &c. This Agreement was diſcovered from* India, *anno* 1642. *and mightily confirmed there, annis* 1643. & 1644. *by Actions, Commiſſions, Orders, Injunctions, Expreſſions, Detentions, Maſſacres, and Depredations, &c.*

5 *That from the ſaid Expedition, &c. Mr.* Courten *may* Plea perſonall. *juſtly claime perſonall and peculiar intereſt and propriety, (ſufficient to imploy three or foure Ships of good burthen yearly) from* Dabull, *all along the Coaſt of* Mallabar *to* Cape Cannereens,

nereene; *also* Acheen *Factory*, Ballasore, *and* China *Trade, others there conceiv'd at best* (Ballasore *excepted*) *either interlopers, intruders, supplanters, or oppressors, till differences* (*long depending*) *by Authority be determined, &c.*

6 *That two joynt Stocks at least* (*well regulated*) *are absolutely necessary, and a foundation free from Blood-guiltinesse might better be laid, and so expect better successe then formerly, as by the three Principles,* Carwar *considerations, and other waies may plainly be demonstrated.*

7 *That the new Modellers* (*the old Companies now best directors*) *had their induction and instruction from Mr.* Courten, *and others in relation to him and the Common-wealth, but their unkinde retributions, and preventions of further and future discoveries, and informations for generall good, deserves a particular Discourse.*

Concluding the Premises with a peremptory (*but pertinent and patheticall Letter*) *intended principally for present securing* Carwar, *for the recovery and advance of that Trade, and good of this Common-wealth, &c.*

Closing up all with a generall Assertion, and particular application of Mr. Courtens *interest, and propriety in and to the* East *and* West-Indies, *&c.*

To

East-India-Trade first discovered by the *ENGLISH*.

WHen famous Sir *Francis Drake* (after his return from the South seas *Anno* 1580.) had here divulged his discovery and treaty there with the King of *Ternate*, and his Orankaies or Nobles (being one of the principall Spice-Islands of *Molucca*, *Banda* or *Amboyna*, (the onely known places of the world for Nutmegs, Cloves and Mace, and a principall foundation of *East-India*, and all other Trade) thereupon some yeare after, a vigilant fore-seeing neighbour *Dutch*-Nation (who, like wise Merchants, and carefull parents, providing for childrens portions and posterity) tooke the opportunity of advantage of the negligent and inconsiderate *English*, then and after, altogether for the present:) And the said forreign Nation after some yeares spent in discovery, to gain a right understanding thereof, at last prosecuted their *East-India* voyages with one onely joynt stock of about 600000 li. in a Nationall, free and regulated way, and therewith in forty years gained almost the whole Europian Trade of *East-India* aforesaid, even to admiration in point of power, honour and profit, so that (*communibus annis*) 1400000 li. or thereabouts, is conceived returned for *Holland* (being but the superfluity of their stock of *India*) besides imployment of two hundred, or two hundred and fifty saile of Ships, equall now in burthen to four or five hundred of ours, having thereby also gotten and built there, about thirty impregnable Cities, Towns and Castles, besides Conquest and Command of about 30000 miles coasting (with Inland-trade) *viz.* from the coasts of *China*, *Japan*, and *Philippeen* Islands Northwards, all along to *Cape bon Esperanze* Southwards, the whole contents of the Old-*East-India* Companies Patent or Monopoly.

Anno 1580.

Plea National.

Dutch stock 600000. li. An. 1602.

Dutch-gain, Englands-losse.

Whereas the *English* being, and for some years continuing in

Contrary Constitutions.

particular running-voyages (onely to enrich a few) were afterward reduced to a generall joynt stock, or destructive Monopoly of a different or contrary Constitution and Government to the foresaid *Dutch* or Neighbour-Nation, as might be shewed in sundry particulars, and so hath produced different and contrary effects, as appears at this day by the said Companies mis-imploying or mis-spending since in one joynt stock about 16c00c0 li. in severall joynt stocks above 3600000 li. thereby much impoverishing the Nation and Natives by transporting much Bulloigne, and native coine (elsewhere procurable) onely inriching a few at home and abroad in office and imployment; and (which is wonderfull) notwithstanding all this time and treasure, hitherto not provided in *India* with one port, or place of their owne for a Rendezvouze, or so much as to secure a Ship or Pinnace; but it is not the Authours intention to make search or scrutiny at this time into this mystery, whether proceeding from reason prevaricated by the particular interests and profits of the Governing-party here, or rather from Deity offended, by the cruell and unreasonable intentions and actions of those in office and authority, both here and elsewhere, belonging to the said Company; for to dip my pen in blood's (from the Old Companies first *Adam*'s at *Japan*, to Mr. *Courtens* last *Adam* at *Madagascar* or *Acheen*) would be a sad theam: And to speak of unparalleld injuries and oppressions is no pleasing story, yet duty and necessity (with due respect to truth and sobriety) at present enjoyns me (according to my promise in the Frontispeece) to declare somewhat of my long and laborious observation and experience of that hitherto abused *East-India*-Trade (rather Traffique) as also of the wofull and sad sufferings therein, of *William Courten* Esquire, his friends and creditors, which are very many and great; onely for orders sake reducing the same to three Terminations or Revolutions, *Infancy*, *State*, and *Declination*, therefore *ad rem*, briefly thus:

English-stocks 3600000 li.

Company no Rendezvouze.

Adam Cr. Adam Cm.

Ormus &c. neglected.

Plea National.

The *English* being thus improvident, and careless of Cities and Castles ready built, and the Royalties and Customes thereof (though of extraordinary value and consequence, and properly belonging to the Crown and Dignity of this Commonwealth) and the *Dutch* Shipping and Trade there, to the Northward (as formerly to the Southward) more and more increasing; and *Portugal*

rugal depredations (whereof the Company had taken good store) failing; then fell the *English* Traffique there also into a deep and languishing consumption, insomuch that their Actions or Adventures were frequently sold here from party to party, for many years together at 30. 35. and 40. *per cent.* losse, some much more, others undone, and so continued decaying a long time without any hope of recovery; and about *An.*1632. And since, some transactions were said to be again in agitation between the *Dutch* on the one party, and the late King and the *English East-India* Company on the other party, concerning their claim or interest in or to any the foresaid Spice-Islands in relation to the Crown of *England* (then said to be comprimized for 80000 li. (including the said Companies houses, and stores burnt at *Jacquetra* by the *Dutch Aug.*1628. valued by protest then at 200000. Rials of eight *Spanish*) but the said King and Company not agreeing upon shares (as reported) the monies yet remaine with the *Dutch*, but what was then and there positively acted is best known to themselves, and whether beneficiall, or rather much prejudiciall to this Commonwealth? for it is certainly reported from men of experience in those parts, that since that time the *Dutch* have assumed the sole & whole propriety of all the foresaid Spice-Islands to themselves, prohibiting the *English* upon penalty and forfeiture of ship and goods, life, limbe and liberty, not to come there with any their shipping, which said losse of Trade by knowing men (*viis & modis*) is valued at 100000 li. *per annum* consequence, to this Commonwealth.

Trade decaying from 1619 to 1634.

Quer. Mr. Boneal, and Mr. Boswel the Kings Agent and state of Spice-Islands.

Houses and stores burnt, & K. demands 80000 li.

J. R.

A.1623. trade lost valued at 100000 li. per An.

The aforesaid *East-India* Company having thus lost their trade by undervaluing and neglecting those Islands and *Ormus*, &c. *An.* 1623. as formerly expresst, and so brought their coasting and posting Traffique into such a condition, that generall Adventurers were altogether discouraged, and themselves (I mean those in office and authority, (who onely were gainers as aforesaid) still craftily crying up that trade, and labouring as for life, pretending want of freedome, liberty, and other immunities and priviledges in Customes and Imposts, with an unlimited arbitrary power over all Adventurers, and an absolute restraint of the whole Nation, which could have no other issue (save as formerly) to damnifie and destroy our owne, and enrich all others with the riches and dignities of those vast and glorious Kingdomes and Countries, not considering

Bad government destroyes Trade.

Good and bad government.

ſidering; or at leaſt not diſcovering the main and ſole cauſes of theſe their ſo unprofitable practices, proceeds meerly and clearly from their unprincipled and generall bad government; and this truth is manifeſt and apparent, by their exporting hence our owne coine of gold, ſilver, half Crowns, and Plate (melted or unmelted, as well as foreigne; in as great quantities to maintaine a Traffique of 100. or 150000 li. *per annum*, as the *Dutch* to maintain a Trade of 2000000 li. *per an.* or more, which requires ſerious conſideration and reformation.

Quer. the reaſons.

Sir *William Courten's* Expedition.

WHilſt *East-India* affairs were in this low, languiſhing and deſperate condition, it ſo happened, that the late King and Councell were (by travellers and men of experience) truly informed thereof, and expected ſome rationall propoſalls from the ſaid Company, to recover and revive the ſame, but finding none ſatisfactory (for grounded and accuſtomed errours are neither eaſily removed, nor willingly acknowledged) and withall conſidering the damage Nationall, of at leaſt 4. or 500000 li. in *England* and *Ireland*, in the exportation of our Native, and importation of *East-India* commodities (beſides imployment and improvement of ſtock and ſhipping, a great honour and ſafety to this Nation;) Theſe and other like good conſiderations moved the ſaid late King and Councell, to admit of another Company to plant and trade in ſuch places only where the old Company were not, or did not trade, and there at their diſcretion to ſettle Factories and plant Collonies after the *Dutch* manner (and intended practiſe of the new modelers from that example) the one not to interloop, intrude or intrench upon, or into the Ports and places of the other, as by Letters-patents, or otherwiſe may plainly appear.

An. 1634. and 1635.

Reaſons for Sir Wil. Courtens undertakings.

Sir Williams Patent legal, the Companies not.

The late King and Councell having thus equally and prudently reſolved and ordered this weighty affair, Sir *William Courten* (a moſt eminent Merchant and excellent Commonwealths-man) was conceived fitteſt to undertake and manage the ſame; and to that end having entertained Merchants and Commanders of good abilities, and long experience there, fitted and ſet out, *An.* 1635. five or ſix ſaile of Ships richly provided, and ſo ſet ſaile for *East-India*, and arrived at *Goa* (the chiefe *Portugal* City there, intending to ſettle from *Dabull* in the *Decan*-Country (once ſacke

by

by the Companies ship Exchange) and so all along that, and the coast of *Mallabar* to *Cape Commereen* or *Gammereen*, where they setled Factories, contracted Customes, purchased and bought Ports and places for Trade; and from thence sailed to *Acheen*, so to *China*, and intended for *Japan*, and afterwards for *Madagascar* and other places; and this was the principall groundwork and foundation of that most excellent, honourable, just and necessary undertaking; indeed a businesse both then and now too weighty for any particular man, or society, and (*rebus sic stantibus*) onely fit for the cognizance or encouragement of the Representative of this whole Nation, or others by their appointment in regard of foreigne and domestick opposition, as hereafter expressed.

Sir Williams propriety and foundation.

East-India trade National.

Sir *William Courten* aforesaid had no sooner dis-speeded the said ships from the *Downes*, but he fell sick and dyed, having therein (as reported) upon his particular account, an adventure of about 150000 li. and the voyage was no sooner entered, but all manner of devices and oppositions both at home and abroad were used and practiced to prevent, obstruct, damnifie and utterly destroy their designes, both by *Dutch* and *English*; and for the better understanding thereof, somewhat to each party for distinction sake, and first to the *Dutch* because of their distance.

Sir Williams adventure 150000 li.

Dutch and English Devices.

THe *Dutch* seriously weighing and pondring that the principles and purposes of this Expedition were much like their own, altogether tended to revive and advance a Trade to perpetuity, (especially in opening and establishing a *China* and *Japan* trade, whereto the old Company would never be perswaded neither to trade with the *Mallabars* as aforesaid) therefore the *Dutch* (lest their honours and profits should thereby be impared and diminished) watched and spied out their designes at *Goa* and coast of *Mallabar* aforesaid, and upon the very first proceedings of Captain *John Weddall* with the foresaid Fleet, from *Goa* aforesaid, and so through the straights of *Malacca*, and in their passage to and again from *China* aforesaid, upon their lawfull imployments, were sundry times encountred and molested by the *Dutch*; and at last (having a Commission from *Heer van Deeman* (as I take it) the Generall of *Jaccatra alias Battavia*) to fire or sinke them, unlesse they would come under their com-

Dutch apprehensions upon good reasons.

Dutch Commission fire and sword.

mand and submit to their mercy, or deliver them the *Portugals* and their goods aboard, valued about 200000 li. But Captaine *Richard Swanley* (Commander of Ship Sonne) and his Company were unwilling to fight in defence of the *Portugals* and their goods (because from them they had received many injuries and affronts in *China*) whereat Captain *Weddal* was much enraged, but Captain *Swanley* advised Captain *Weddal* to open the box *Numb.* 8. with instructions from *England* concerning *Portugal*, wherein they found power was given them to seize any *Portugals*, and their goods for the Crown of *England* in case they suffered any damage by them, and then Captain *Weddal* seized upon the goods accordingly, so Captaine *Swanley* and his company were satisfied and resolved upon that account to hazard their lives in defence thereof, and the Sonne being of best force, having six and thirty Guns mounted, weighed anchor and went a head the Dragon to receive the first encounter, then Captain *Swanley* went aboard the *Dutch* Commandoor, and acquainted him with their resolutions and grounds thereof, whereat the said Commandoor and Company was much incensed, but thereupon refrained ingagement, and desired a copy of their Orders and Instructions to keep his head on his shoulders (as he said) when he returned to *Jaccatra* (which peradventure was granted conditionally to prosecute to purpose the year following) and so in a grumbling threatning manner suffered them to passe; but still observed their motion, and Captain *Weddal* afterward refused Captain *Swanleys* advice, which was to make good that seizure, and bring those goods for *England*, but contrarily Captain *Weddal* (according to his particular contract in *China*) landed the said *Portugals* and their goods in *India*; Then the *Dutch* finding themselves thus deluded by a device, doubtlesse resolved upon an opportunity for a revenge, so the Ship Sonne being laden, set sail that year from the coast of *Mallabar* for *England*: but the *Dragon* and *Katherine* having a rich stock, and not lading to their desires staid another year, when being expected home, it was then credibly and positively reported in *Holland* (by some that came from *India*) that they had sunk, or that the said Ships *Dragon* and *Katherine* were sunk, which (taken at best) they could not have told, unlesse they had known it, because it was never yet known or heard that

Dutch and English Commanders transactions.

Dutch reasons for revenge.

Capt. William Swanleys test.

two

two Ships either *Dutch* or *English* did ever perish together by casualty or tempest, to or from *India* aforesaid. And their very silence herein, is a sufficient argument of their full revenge, and satisfaction to those that have spent some years amongst them at *Jacquetra*, and acquainted with their lofty and insolent carriage towards, and their rigid and austere government over the inconsiderable brabling pedling *English* (as they tearm and value them) besides it was also reported that some of the said Ships goods marked with Mr. *Courtens* mark, were afterwards sold at *Acheen*, and the common rumour in *India* and elsewhere, by severall Nations were, That the *Dutch* way-laid them with a Fleet (as some affirmed) consisting of nine saile, *viz.* six Ships, and three Yaughes or Pinnaces (whereof Ship *Amsterdam* was Admirall) and so meeting with them of *Zealoan* (whereof *John Tyson* a Skipper was afterwards made King by the Generall *Jaccatra*, as appeared by his warrants) invited Captain *Weddal* aboard (as some said) and then took occasion to quarrell, and so to pillage and sink them, not saving a man alive, and that divers, the old Companies servants in *India* have both heard and related sundry such probable reports to that purpose, howsoever here an uncharitable silence and reservation, or rather fear to offend others, and so prejudice themselves, makes them beware.

two ships never perished together from India

T. L.

T. W.

Zealoan the only Synamond Island.

Jo. Tyson K. of Zealoan.

Dragon and Katherine watched at Cocheen, then way-laid and sunk.

Uncharitable silence.

This great losse valued about 140000 li. occasioned divers years to passe, ere another voyage for *China* by *William Courten* Esquire (Son and Executor to the aforesaid *William*) was undertaken, which was *An.* 1643. in Ship *Bon Esperange*, which said ship was fraighted from *Goa* aforesaid for *China* & passing through the straights of *Mallacca* upon her lawful imployment, as aforesaid, met likewise with another *Dutch* Fleet, and was by them summoned as aforesaid, to go in there under their command, else their Commission was to sink or burn, kill or slay, and so upon refusall to go in, the said Ship was violently assaulted, the Master and others slain, and at last taken and made reprisall, and carried into *Malacca*, and all the men living, made prisoners, and the *English* (by their own relation) more basely esteemed and used by the *Dutch*, then the *Portugals* their reputed enemies, and as these men did frequently report afterwards at *Bantam* and elsewhere, that it was a common speech in *Malacca*, that the two foresaid Ships *Dragon* and *Katherine* were sunk by the *Dutch*, and that some

Ship Bon Esprange taken by Dutch.

Common report at Malacca.

ſome *Dutch* themſelves ſaid unto them, they did well to yeeld when they did, elſe they ſhould have fared like the Dragon, and *Katherines* Company.

Captaine Blackman eſcaped, and affronted in China.

And Captaine *Jeremiah Blackman* in his returne from *China*, in ſhip *William*, nearly eſcaped the like danger, having lately ſuffered at *China* ſundry affronts and prejudices, both from *Dutch*, and the old Companies ſervants, aſperſing them for Round-heads, and declaring themſelves Royaliſts, and Cavaliers, and ſo gained the affection of the *Portugals*, and *Chinaes*, as the Merchant of the ſaid ſhip *William* reported in *India*.

There hath been alſo further conſiderable diſcoveries here in *England*, and (*inter alia*) of an imbroidered Girdle with ſilver buckles, belonging to Mr. *John Dawbney* Chirurgeon of the ſaid ſhip *Katherine*, and knowne to be alive and well in the ſaid ſhip, ſetting ſaile for *England* from the coaſt of *Mallabar*, which ſaid very Girdle of certaine knowledge, both of the buckles and imbroidery, a *Dutch* Saylor or ſea-man in *Southwarke* was ſeen to weare, and the party was fully reſolv'd to apprehend him upon ſuſpicion, but diſſwaded by friends and acquaintance, but could not be ſo ſatisfied, but went to the ſaid *Dutchman*, and demanded how, where, and when he came by the ſaid Girdle? the *Dutchman* at firſt ſeemed angry, and asked the reaſon of his inquiry; he replyed, becauſe that was his friends Girdle, which he reſolved, and ſo declared here to his friends and himſelfe, before his going for *India*, never to ſell or give away the ſame; at laſt the *Dutchman* confeſt he had it in *India*, the ſaid party (as he ſaid) did then thinke in his very heart that the ſaid *Dutchman*, and one or two more with him, were ſome of their Murtherers, and after that time ſaw him no more; only acquainted the *Eaſt-India* Company, or ſome of their Servants therewith (not knowing Mr. *Courten*) but being by them ſlighted, ſuffered it ſo to paſſe (as himſelfe ſaid) and would juſtifie upon Oath if thereunto lawfully called, with much more to that purpoſe; but what need I hold a Candle to the Sun?

John Stratford in Southwarke teſt.

Jo Dawbnies girdle.

The Dutchmans confeſſion.

C. W. S.
M. T. L.

More-

Moreover, the aforesaid Captaine *Jeremiah Blackman*, Commander of the ship *William*, was likewise in the said Streights, in her lawful Voyage to *China*, by another *Dutch* Fleet strongly threatned with sinking, or burning, unlesse he would submit as aforesaid, and shewed him their Commission to that very purpose, but the said *Dutch* (though moe ships in number) viewing and seeing her every way wel fitted and manned for defence, durst not attempt, but suffered her to passe, and notwithstanding the discreet answers of C. *B.* aforesaid to their Messages, having neither *Portugall*, or *Portugalls* goods, yet by Letters, threats, and other wayes they thought to disturbe and prevent him in his *China* Trade as aforesaid, and upon his returne (as was reported) way-laid him with a greater Fleet of seven, or nine sayle, but met not with him, the reason was, (as most conceiv'd) that the *Dutch* supposed, that the fear of them might cause Cap. *B.* to keep a good distance from the coast of *Malacca*, and peradventure to passe through the streights of *Sundie*, but the *Dutch* failed of that hope, for the said ship came as neare the coast of *Malacca* as possible they could, and passed faire by the rode, and so through the streights without interruption, or sight of any *Dutch* ships, which was much admired by the *Dutch* at *Achem*. But shortly after this two of the old Companies ships returning together the same Voyage from *China*, were encountered by some of the foresaid *Dutch* fleete, and (according to custom) without resistance submitted to their Summons, and went in under their command at *Malacca*, to pay what duties, and receive what further admonitions and instructions the *Dutch* there would please to lay upon them, and so probably ever since, they (as formerly elsewhere) deserted those *China* Voyages; or became their tributaries, whereby at pleasure the *Dutch* can now prevent all hopes of future Trade into any those Southerne parts, unlesse some remedy or course be taken here in *England* to prevent their practises; the consideration hereof, together with some particular grudge against Captain *Weddall* at the siedge of *Cales* may sufficiently evince the truth of the premises, and that the true cause was the feare of competition in that Trade, and not their difference with the *Portugall*, as they pretended.

Cap. J. B. threatned.

Ship William way-laid.

East-India Companies subjection.

Com. Wilbrand at Goa.

The true and pretended causes of Dutch proceedings.

Object. *But many object, and say, It is impossible to conceale*

could such an horrid and merciless act of sinking and drowning, &c. thereto thus.

Severall judgements.

Those who have had their education at home, may possibly in truth have some such slender apprehensions, and deceitfull judgements in a charitable construction, yet if such would but seriously consider what cruel plots and projects have secretly, and abundantly been lately acted in our owne and neighbour Nations, might thence receive sufficient information and satisfaction. But others from observation and experience abroad, thinks it as strange on the contrary, that so much testimony upon so little inquiry should so evidently appeare, the least whereof being more then the greatest, or all the Indiciaes in that horrid *Amboyna* action: besides, better to informe their judgements, I wil instance, or parallel it with a passage at *Jaccatra* in *India*, Anno 1628. and it was thus:

Amboyna action.

Jaccatr. 1627.

January, 1627. the *English* removing then from *Jaccatra* aforesaid to *Bantam*, but leaving their houses, with goods and stores to a great value, as by *Invoyce*, and protest under others and my owne hands then and afterwards appeared, which said houses, &c. in *August*, 1628. were fired and burnt by the aforesaid *Dutch*, (and the walls afterwards laid even with the ground) and by them reported to be done by the *Javaes* their enemies, which report (notwithstanding many thousand inhabitants there (most knowing the same) was never in *India* contradicted, or the truth thereof ever yet published or confessed by any of them to this day that ever I heard of, which plainly shewes it much more easie to conceale the destruction of the *Dragon*, and *Katherine*, which with the foresaid ship *Bonsperanz*, and *Hen. Bonadventure*, at *Mauritius* Iland, may amount in value to about 200000. li.

Houses, &c. burnt. Aug. 1628.

Dutch damages valued at 200000. l.

Furthermore, it was never yet knowne (as formerly expresst) that two ships, neither *English* nor *Dutch* perished together, either going to, or comming from *India*, since their first Trading thither to this present, though much weaker in substance, or of longer continuance in the Country, &c. Thus far the *Dutch*.

Two ships never perished together.

But least forraigne Adversaries (as their actions and expressions plainly demonstrate) should not fully effect their desires,

let

let us looke back againe to the beginning of this so honest and honourable undertaking, and with as much truth and plainenesse as may be, briefly touch, or point at the practice and proceedings of our owne Nation and Neighbours, more particularly the Old *East-India* Company, and some others, which may much confirme and seale the truth of the Premises, *viz.* The Old East-India Company, &c.

It hath been too apparent from the beginning how strongly and strangely the said *East-India* Company have endeavoured by all means at home and abroad, continually to oppose, obstruct, damnifie, and prevent the lawfull proceedings of the said Sir *William Courten* deceased, and *William Courten* Esq; his son, for at or before the arrivall of the said Fleet in *India*, a contract was made with the Vice-roy of *Goa* by the said Companies President, and thereupon a ship freighted thence for *China* by the *Portugals*, to anticipate or prejudice the said designe, being the first *English* ship ever sent thither by the said Company, and that upon freight, as having neither monies nor goods of their own but good store of private trade, and the said President afterwards homeward bound at *Madagascar* received divers courtesies from the Commander of Mr. *Courtens* ship *William*, outward bound (as credibly reported) promising a fair and friendly requitall for the same by his letter to the said Vice-roy, but the purport thereof (as was said) was of a contrary tenour, and of such dangerous consequence (if it had been delivered) that it might have hazarded the surprizall of the ship and goods, or promoted some difference or distaste either from the *Portugals* or *Malabars*, where Mr. *Courtens* Factors (with extraordinary charges had purchased, and setled divers Factories for accommodation of Trade to perpetuity as aforesaid. East-India Company Ship Lond. W.M.P. E.H.C. Foundation for Trade.

Likewise at home Mr. *Courten* was often molested with sundry frivolous complaints, and divers prejudiciall, and vexatious informations at Councel-board before this Parliament, as when the Plantations of *Mauritius* and *Madagascar* were prevented, and so left for the *Dutch*, and since at severall Committees, too tedious to relate, whose example incited the said Company, and their Factors to a far greater care then formerly in the management and inlargement of their Trade; Insomuch that this advantage thereupon to them shortly accrued, that whereas their actions or adventures, were formerly sold for many years together, at 30, *Mauritius* prevented. Also Madagascar. B. Southampton, E. Arundel.

Trade aduanced. Mr. G. C.

35, or 40. *per cent.* losse, or more, as aforesaid; on the contrary, upon, or presently after this Expedition, they yeelded 30, 35, or 40, *per cent.* profit, or more (as some of themselves reported). yet for all this, the said Company desisted not from prosecuting year after year, although Mr. *Courten*, and his Commanders, and Factors, had sundry wayes and times requited their cruell injuries with manifold and divers extraordinary courtesies, as relieving their ships with provisions, their Factors with monies, and redeeming sundry times their men with large summes from the miserablest *Mallabar* Captivity that ever was heard of, (as in the said mens expressions is lamentably declared) some of them lying ten or twelve months together in most sad distresse, conceiving the Turkish slavery, a Paradise to their dolefull Captivity; and to aggravate their misery, those that suffered most were taken (not in the Companies service by their own relation) but imployed by their Presidents, and others in private trade from Port to Port, being therein (to use their owne language) the Companies Competitors and to scrue their afflictions to the height, the then President of *Surrat* (by whom they were principally imployed) would neither relieve them himselfe, nor appoint any other, nor afford them their own wages and debts, due from the said Company for their ransome or subsistance, no nor so much as any the least comfort at all either in word or writing, as by their owne most grievous, wofull, and patheticall expressions to Mr. *Courtens* Factors, may more largely appear.

Ships relieved, monies lent, men redeemed &c.

Brightwel Jo. &c.

Hen. Watkings sacrificed.

The Companies competitors. P. F.

But lest these and like practices should not fully effect their purposes, I will give you a hint of their more cruell and desperate courses, (if we may believe the free and friendly expression of one of their own Factors, upon good testimony taken at *Rabagg* in *India* 4. *May* 1644. and afterwards made good in *England* upon oath in *Chancery*, 23. *Feb.* 1646. as followeth *verbatim*.

Com. cruell resolutions.

Rabagg

Rabagg 4. Marcii 1644.

THeſe are to certifie all whom it may concerne, That *in* October 1642. *I underwritten* R.H. *being in company with Mr.* J. S. *(then a ſervant to Eſquire* Courten *) at the* Cardinals-Hat *near the* Royal-Exchange *in* London, *drinking after* Exchange-time *as uſually; there came into our company divers other Merchants, all unknown to me (I beleeve not to* Dtt. S.*) one of which was (as by his diſcourſe) ſometimes Factor in* East-India *for the Old Company, and then lately come from thence, who relating the ſeverall paſſages and dangers he had paſſed in his voyage out, and home, and my ſelfe replying, That I was upon* Dtt. *deſigne in ſervice of the Worſhipfull* William Courten *Eſquire (whoſe dayes God make ever happy) his the ſaid Factors reply was; As a friend I tell it you, proceed not in that imployment, for it is moſt dangerous, becauſe the ſaid Old* East-India *Company, and the* Dutch *have* **Agreed** *together to injure the Eſq; either at* Cape-good-hope, *or where elſe they ſhall meet with his ſhips to the effect of ſinking, burning, or taking: All which, I the aforeſaid* R.H. *doe affirme to be true, as heard in the place aforeſaid, and by Oath will confirme the ſame, when thereunto lawfully called. In witneſſe whereof I have hereunto ſet my hand the day and year above written.*

The Agreement.

R. H.

Jurat. de veritat. permiſſ. 23. die Feb. 1646. *J. P.*

This Affidavit made good ſince upon Oath in *Chancery*, need no Commentary, for it ſpeaks very plain and fully to the whole buſineſſe, neither can any other conſtruction be made thereof, as proceeding from any particular Intereſt, or by-reſpects, but a

friendly admonition of a known truth, as both before and after by the ſaid agreement of the ſaid parties, and their ſeverall actions plainly appeared.

May 1643. Comp. 2 ſhips Hart and Hind.

For the ſaid *Eaſt-India* Company proceeded, and took occaſion in *May* 1643. being (the year following) to viſit the coaſt of *Mallabar* with two of their ſhips, and there found at Anker (in the road of *Cannanore*) two Veſſels, a greater, and a leſſer, belonging to *Mamula Croe*, or *Mahmet de Croe* (King of *Cannanore* aforeſaid) and other merchants, with whom Mr. *Courtens* Factors had good trade and correſpondence, having a Factory ſometime there, and another at *Batticalla*, not far from thence, with a coſtly building of his owne. The ſaid two ſhips belonging to the ſaid *Mahmet de Croe*, being very rich in treaſure of gold and ſilver, and newly come from the *Red-Sea*, were then and there both violently ſeized on by the Companies ſaid two ſhips, and ſo made repriſall, killing and drowning ſome hundreds of their men, without mercy (as was reported) and tooke from them in treaſure, thirty or forty thouſand pound Sterling, the moſt whereof belonged to *Mamula Croe* aforeſaid, which act not onely cauſed the loſſe of thoſe Factories, Trade, and friendly correſpondence in thoſe parts; but to this day the ſaid *Mamula Croe* &c. demands the ſaid loſſe, with damages from Mr. *Courtens* Factors, then threatning them with utter deſtruction both by Sea and Land, if they made not ſpeedy ſatisfaction, as by ſeverall atteſtations, and other expreſſions did plainly appear.

Mahmet de Croe K. of Cannan. &c.

Mallabar depredations, 30 or 40000 li. a veſſel 500 tun burthen.

Mahmet de Croes demands

Moreover, it was by the ſaid *Mallabars* alleadged, That becauſe the Companies Factors, and Factories were at ſuch a diſtance, therefore they could not attain their right from them; but from Mr. *Courtens* (living near or amongſt them they might, ſaying further, that *England* is ſaid to be a place of Juſtice, where Mr. *Courten* may obtaine full right from the Company, but how far they are miſtaken hitherto, both in that, and the following five thouſand pound principall, which prejudiced M. *Courten* above forty thouſand pound in one year) I leave to thoſe in Authority, and others, whom it may concerne to judge and conſider.

Mallabars plea.

Mr. Courtens damage.

Comp. ſhip Hopewel E. L Maſter.

And leaſt this ſhould not be a ſufficient provocation, in *January* following, another of the ſaid Companies ſhips ſeconded the ſaid cruelties, with other Maſſacres upon poore people in country

country Boats, trading too and fro upon the said coast of *Mallabar*, as by another Attest may also appeare; whereby they have constrained the *Mallabars* to desire the *Dutch* to reside at *Caxanore*, and protect them against the *English*, thereby hazarding the losse of that Trade, to the further great prejudice of this Common-wealth, the *Dutch* never there before, but now seated neare *Carwar* wil also indanger that which is one, and all the places enjoyed by any *English* in *India*, fit for a Randezvouz.

R.W. attest. Dutch entered Mallabar, &c.

Carwar now in danger.

In further prosecution of the foresaid Agreement, or Covenant, Combination, or Conspiracy, about two yeares after, viz. in *May*, 1644. it so happened at *Madagascar* that *R. B.* Master of the said Companies ship *Endeavour* subtilly, and surreptitiously got possession of about 5000. li. value in *Barbary* gold, and two brasse Guns, with seventeen men, all saved by their great industry out of the ship *Little William* cast away beyond *Cape bon Esperance*, going to *India* upon Mr. *Courtens* imployment, which said *B.* &c. partly by false reports, and partly by faire promises, pretending then, and afterwards at all times and places convenient, he would assist them in the transport thereof to some of Mr. *Courtens* Factories in *India*, or else to *Acheen*, whither they were consign'd; but being possest thereof, intended nothing lesse, but delivered the same at *Madrassapatan* to *F. D.* &c. the said Companies chiefe Agent there, and by them the same is detained to this day, though often and lawfully demanded in *India*, with much earnestnesse and extraordinary hazard, and exceeding great charge by Sea and Land, as appeares by many severall Letters, Protests, Messengers, &c. the said Companies Factors alwayes concealing the same in *India* for many months together, both men and monies from the knowledge of all Mr. *Courtens* Factors (though but fifteen dayes journey by a Foot-post, and upon the same continent, & converted the said monies to their own use (for it seems they much wanted supplies) and they so ordered and disposed of the men, that but one of all the said seventeen ever yet appeared to tell any tales or tidings to Mr. *Courten*, or any his Factors, either in *India* or *England* that ever I heard of, no not so much as any word or writing from any one of them, though it be reported that *T. C.* Mr. of the said ship *William*, (who had the principall charge thereof) dyed in one of the said Com-

Ship little William.

R. B. and F. D. monies detained, demanded by messengers, letters, protests, &c.

Extraordinary charges and concealments of men and monies.

T. H. Factor.

T, C. no writings

Companies ſhips homeward bound; therefore let the judicious reader compare and conſider all circumſtances, and then conclude how farre this concealement comes ſhort of that of the *Dragon* and *Katherine* aforeſaid, and how much inferiour for cruelty and damage.

This concealment compared with Dragon and Katherine.

The fore-mentioned party (one of the ſeventeen) ſundry years after being accidentally heard of, and found out in *London* (his Conſcience ſeeming to accuſe him) being Purſer and Factor of the ſaid ſhip *William*, in Office next to the aforeſaid *C.* and perceiving Mr. *Courten* in a condition not to proſecute in Law, was very unwilling to make any relation thereof, but afterwards was conſtrained thereto by an Order from the Houſe of Lords, and confirmed the ſame in *Chancery*, which he ſaid was done very ſparingly; and further ſaid, that if he ſhould have ſpoken his knowledge therein freely, it would have been a great ſhame and diſgrace to the ſaid Company, and that he could make ſuch a diſcovery of that paſſage at *Madraſſapatan*, how they were kept in durance, and that the ſaid D. &c. would not ſuffer them to goe from *Acheen* with their Gold, &c. although they had agreed with a Country Veſſel or Junke at 40. l. for their paſſage or tranſport, neither would they be ſuffered to write, or travell by Land to Mr. *Courtens* Factories, but were forced to ſubmit to their pleaſure, and be at their diſpoſe, and the like, being all ſeventeen ſtrangers in *India*, and never there before, &c. The ſaid parties ſparing Relation and Affidavit is as followeth.

T. H. unwillingneſſe.

Their bondage at Madraſſapatan.

To the Right Honourable the Lords aſſembled in Parliament.

The humble and true Atteſtation of T. H. *Factor, concerning Eaſt-India paſſages, relating to* 5000. *l. in controverſie between* William Courten *Eſq; and the old Eaſt-India Company.*

THe 7th. of *May*, 1644. Ship *Endeavour* belonging to the *Eaſt-India* Company arrived in *Auguſtine* Bay, upon the Iſland of St. *Laurence*, at which time was reſident upon the ſame place ſeventeen perſons of Eſq; *Courtens*, which through ſhipwrack had then lived there almoſt ninemoneths; At the arriving

arriving of the foresaid *Endeavour*, my selfe and six more went aboard at the same time, the Mr. *R. B.* and the Merchant, *H. O.* were going ashore, upon our comming they stayed a little, enquiring of us our disaster and then went away. After which some of our company discoursing with theirs, revealed concerning the saving of the *Barbary* Gold, which newes was sent ashore to the foresaid Master, and Merchant, who presently returned aboard to have further knowledge, and then went ashore againe to visite our Master, *T. C.* unto whom they proferred passage with all his Company, and what we had unto *Joanna*, or their Factorie in *India*, and that we might have from thence conveyance for our Gold unto the Esquires Factories *per* bils of Excharge, or carried over land. And they further informed us, that we might expect ships out of *England*, but there was small hopes, for they had been a long time ready, but were stopt by the Parliament, that our Master Esquire *Courten* was sailing.

Upon these resolutions our Master accepted of their loves for passage to *Joanna*; After we had been at sea some five dayes, the Master and Merchant of ship *Endeavour* desired of *T. C.* to see the Gold, and know the quantity, and likewise to peruse his Invoyce, and his Bill of lading, or else they would take no charge of the Gold; which desire was granted by the said *T. C.* who produced the Gold, with Bill of lading and Invoyce, the which they looked on and coppied out, the Gold they weighed with rials of 8. and sealed them up together in baggs, and put it into one of their Masters chests of money.

Two months after M. Courtens ship arrived there.

The Gold taken in charge.

Before we came to *Joanna*, the Master and Merchant perswaded *T. C.* not to remaine on *Joanna*, because there was never any o four *English* that once lay ashore that lived, and that upon arrivall at their Factory we should be accomodated with any thing for our further passage; which perswasion *T. C.* received.

False suggestions, Joanna very healthful, test. 22. Companies men.

In our passage from *Joanna* to *Madrassapatan*, R. B. Master of the said ship *Endeavour*, brought out his Commission upon the quarter deck, and read it openly in the hearing of the said *T. C.* and divers others of the said *C.* his Company, wherein the terme Interloper was often recited, and being read, he the said *R. B.* demanded of the said *T. C.* to see his Commission,

Further enticements.

Companies Commissions scandal. and large.

which was only Orders, and Instructions, by vertue of Letters Patents, whereof the said *B.* tooke a Coppy; and the said *R. B.* then told the said *T. C.* that by vertue of his Commission, if he had met him at sea he had power to take him.

The second of *July* we arrived at one of the Companies Factories in *Madrassapatan*, where being ashore, *T. C.* requested the Companies Agent and Factors, That according to their informations and promise, that they would assist us for the transporting of the said Gold, either by bill of Exchange, or conveyance over Land unto some of the Esquires Factories; the which they denied, answering, that the Country was up in armes, and there was no safe passages. We then requested the Agent and Councel to give us his Passe, and let us have Servants and Guides, and we would travell with it, or else to make it over by bils of Exchange; his answer againe was, That he would not, and that if we would have our Gold, that we should presently be gone out of their Fort, for they were bound by Commission from their Imployers from assisting us, if we were in need, with so much as a peece of bread; And he would not say he would send any after us, but we should take what followed.

Master D. positive and often denials.

Companies Agreement and Commissions suitable.

We also asked an *English-man* (that had been formerly their Servant, but then a Free-man) that if he would entertaine us, and the Gold in his house securely, and procure us a Convoy to passe over-land, we would give him a large recompence; his answer was, That he did not dare to doe any such thing, for by the *English* there he should be forced to fly, and lose all he had.

Perfect durance with the gold.

Moreover, *H. O.* Merchant of the *Endeavour*, related unto me, *T. H.* That they would never have gone from *Augustine* Bay without the Gold for if they had not had it by faire meanes, they would have tooke it perforce; whereby I conceive we might have continued upon the Island for all them, if there had been no Gold.

Per fas aut nefas.

Moreover, after our arrivall at *Madrassapatan* aforesaid, it was credibly reported (and I doe verily beleeve it true) That that Factory was in very great want of supplies, the Factors disposing there formerly of their Gold chaines, and Silver buttons, to supply their great necessities; As further also appeared in their journall Letter, *A.* ending 5 *August*, 1644. haying the said Gold

Gold therein entred, and then ballansing their Accompts, there was paid then to accompt of interest, 4095. Pagothies. *T. H.*

Quick conversion.

All or most of the Gold mentioned herein, as Duccats, Knobs, and Barres, were melted and quoyned into Pagodies, the coyne current of *Madrassapatan* aforesaid, before my comming thence. *T. H.*

April 13. 1647. Postscript.

T. H. aboveſaid maketh Oath, that the contents of this Aneſtation are in ſubſtance true. Jurat. 15. *April*, 1647. *R. A.*

The said *T. H.* was formerly swome at the L. Bar.

This Affidavit (though very short and sparing, according to the Parties owne expression) is no whit unsuitable to the foregoing Agreement, for *C.* and *H.* and all the 17. being never before in *India*, were made beleeve strange things; as first, No ships would come that yeare, Mr. *Courtens* ship *Loyalty* comming thither about two moneths after; That *Joanna* was such a very dangerous place, whereas about two moneths after, twenty two men of the said Companies were left ashore there by *I. M.* alias *Mac O Neal*, commander of their ship *John*. Now called Sir *J. M.* one of Prince *R.* cheife Captaines, late at *Lisbone* in *Portugall*, which said twenty two men were all (save one) found and well, shortly after taken thence by one of Mr. *Courtens* ships, and carried for *India*, but the Gold was the maine businesse, for after *B.* and *O.* had taken it in charge, it was never more after delivered to *C.* nor any of the rest, but possitively by *D.* and the rest upon all occasions and demands denied, *B.* alledging his power to take the ship, much more the Gold; and *D.* allenging their Commissions not to save any of Mr. *Courtens* people from perishing, with so much as a peece of bread; O strange cruelty!

Strange stories.

Jo. M. Captain at *Lisbone* with Rupert.

Ship Tho. and John.

Cruel Commissions.

But from the Premises it is evident, that this gold belonged properly to Mr. *Courten*, and was absolutely by him intended for the supply and reliefe of his Trade at *Acheen*, and in *India*, and his plantation and discoverie of *Madagascar*, *Assada*, and the rest, but the damage sustained by the deniall, and unjust detaining thereof, is almost incredible, and not easily apprehended,

The Golds proprietor.

Losse incredible.

for that very year 1644. it prevented the return of four ships at least (to my knowledge) two from *India*, and two or three from *Acheen*, all upon Mr. *Courtens* owne account, also causèd the saile of about 300. tuns of goods at 40. *per cent.* losse, likewise a dead Charge of Customes & Factors, Factories at *Carwar*, *Raiapoore*, *Rabagg*, *Goa*, *Acheen* and elsewhere for divers years together to a very great Summe, and utterly destroyed the Plantation of *Madagascar* by preventing recourse of shipping with supplies, with many more damages and sad inconveniences (besides losse of trade ever since) so that (*computat. computand.*) 100000 li. will not make good the personall and reall losse and damnification thereof to Mr. *Courten* (*vlt.* Nationall) as by this following Charge, and the particulars therein expresst may plainly appear.

Trade and Plantation destroyed.

100000 li. personal losse, besides National.

Dutch and English damnifications.

Dragon and *Katherine*, and other *Dutch* damnifications added, will amount the whole losse to 300000 li.

The

The Charge.

The *East-India* Company, Old, or New, or both, together with their Factors, now or late in *East-India* aforesaid, (especially *R. B.* Master, and *H. O.* Merchant of their Ship *Endeavour*, and *F. D.* their Agent at *Madrassapatan*, and the rest, are truly *Chargeable*, and duely *Responsible* for principall, and damage (by their misdoings in *India* aforesaid) To *William Courten* Esquire, Son and Executor to Sir *William Courten* Knight, deceased, *viz.*

TO *sundry sorts of* Barbary-*Gold valued at* 9000 Barbary *Duccats, which upon demand at Sea were delivered aboard the said Companies ship* Endeavour, *by* T. C. *late Master, and* T. H. *late Factour of the Ship* Little-William *of* London, *belonging to the aboveſaid* William Courten *Esquire, to the said* R. B. *Master, and* Hen. O. *Merchant; and by them taken in Charge in, or about the* 24. *of* May, 1644. *And by the said* Rob. *and* Hen. *weighed with Rials of eight* Spanish, *weighing Rials of eight* 1544. *and one quarter, which with two Brasse-guns (and intereſt and insurance added) amounted at leaſt to* 5000 li. *ſterling. All which the said* B. *and* O. *delivered to* F. D. *the said Companies Agent there at* Madrassapatan, *&c. which the said* D. *&c. denied upon all demands, detaining and converting the same to the said Companies use: The proceed whereof was thence to* Bantam, *then to* Jambee, *and again to* Bantam (*all duties deducted*) *would amount at leaſt to* 60. per cent. *profit, which makes* 8000 li. *and thence to* England, cent. per cent. (ult. *Intereſt ever since*) *amounts to* 16000 li. 0 s. May 24 1644.

To charge of a Patamar or Footpost, about forty dayes travell to and again to demand the same, 2 li. 18 s.

To charges also of Wal L. *Factor, horse and three men about six months, or* 180. *dayes at Rials Eight one and halfe* per die. *is* 67 li. 10 s. *principall; to demand and proteſt for denying and detaining the same, which according to custome there by account, or the said Companies pollicies here by Insurance at* 10 s. per *Rial of Eight amounts to* 135 li. 10 s.

To fourteen days demourage of Ship Loyalty *in* Raiapore *river to prepare against the* Mallabars 150li. *afterward eighteen days at* Goa 150 li. *to attend for intelligence, and prepare for* Acheen, *and* Madrassapatan *to demand the same, and upon intelligence afterwards sent to* Persia *principally for the same occasion, and to meet there the said ship* Endeavor, *reported gone thither, and for other provisions and charges with Governours, Merchants, and others to obtain a fraight.* 600 li. 0 s.

To ten moneths more provisions for the said ships voyage, rialls of eight 800. *at* 10 s. per *riall is* 400 li. 10 s.

To dead fraight and demourage (ultr. *breach of Covenant*) *demanded by the Owners,* 12000 li. 0 s.

To five months and thirteen dayes demourage of ship Tho. *and* Jo. *at* 180 li. per *month is,* 978 li. 0 s.

To provisions for the said ship, rials of eight 400. *at* 10 s per *riall is,* 200 li. 10 s.

F.b. 27 1643. *To losse in saile of* 1260 Candees, Saltpeter, *to Capt.* Jer. Blackman (*with other charges*) *at two and a half* Pagothies *great,* per Candee, *is pag.* 3150. *valued* per *peece rial of eight* 1 *and* 3 *quarters, is rials* 5512 *and a half at* 10 s. per *riall is,* 2756. li. 5 s.

To Customes of Raiapore *contracted with* Mastapha Con. *at* 2500. pag. gr. per an. *for six years losse is,* 6555 li. 10 s.

To Pishcashes *or gifts to the said* Masta pha Con. *and other Creditors to pacifie them rials of eight* 400. *is,* 200 li. 0 s.

To charges of Factors and Factories at 2500 li. per an. *prevented imployment ever since,* 15000 li. 0 s.

To charges of three ships to plant Madagascar; Sun, James, Hester, *destroyed for want of supplies.* 12000 li. 0 s.

To ship James *sold for want of trade.* 3000 li. 0 s.

To dead fraight, and other damages per *ship* Sun. 5000 li. 0 s.

To constant watch and Fortification of Carwar *against* Mallabars, *thereto provoked by the said* East-India *Companies massacres, and depredations upon that coast.* 500 li. 0 s.

Summa Total. 75329 li. 3 s.

Further

Further Assertions, and probable Suggestions. *viz.*

The losse of China-*Trade, and* 10000 *Rials of Eight left there formerly much prevented by them, and now at last wholly disappointed.*

To 2000 *Rials of Eight, returned thence by Captaine* Blackman, *and left at* Acheen, *with Trade, Jewels, and Goods there seized by the said Companies Factors, and lost to an unknown value.*

To Ship Abigail, *likewise consigned thither, and lost for want of supplies.*

To Ship Friendship, *likewise then consigned thither, but in like manner disappointed and lost.*

To 1000 li. per an. *for seven years proffered for* Raiapore, *with* Upland-trade, Hariapore, Rab gg, *and* Vizrapore. R. H.

To 7000 Pagothies *great at* Carwar (ultr. *building, fortifying, and other great and continuall charges, conceived above* 20000 li.) *the onely Port of hopes and consequence in possession of* English, *now in great danger to be lost to the* Dutch *or others, which will set a higher value upon it, then the inconsiderate* English, *as in my following* Carwar *considerations, I have more at large expressed, but I hope speedy care will be taken for to secure the same.*

Adde hereto.

The losse of Henry Bonaventure (*laden homeward bound*) *upon* Mauritius Island, *and most of the ship and goods there saved by the* Dutch.

The ship Bon Esperanza *taken by the* Dutch *in the straight of* Malacca *bound for* China, *and then* (computat. computand.) *principall and damage.*

The feet of this particular Charge, English *and* Dutch, *will probably bear the whole body, and carry the Account to, or above the whole, or first Adventure,* viz. 150000 li. (ultr. Dragon, *and* Katherine, *and* Propriety *excluded.*)

Summa Total. 150000 li. ultr. &c.

Lastly,

Mr. Courtens new Association.

Lastly, Mr. *Courten* by the foresaid mis-doings and oppression was so weakned in his estate, that (for the better support of his trade) about *Anno* 1642. he was constrained thereby as well as by advice of friends) to associate with Mr. *M. T.* Capt. *J. B.* and others adventurers (who were altogether strangers in that trade, but made such use of his necessity (as appeared by the sequel at home and abroad) whether by clandestine, private, and prejudiciall Contracts, and Covenants made with himselfe at home (which plainly demonstrates Mr. *Courten* a meer Gentleman, and no Merchant) or by compliance with his Agent or chiefe Factor then in *India*, Mr. *Joh. F.* a man howsoever otherwise able) yet of very corrupt principles and practises, and his government (being altogether a stranger there) proved exceeding damageable to his imployer (though very beneficiall to himself, as might largely be demonstrated, but whether by the one, or the other, or however else seems impertinent to this Discourse; onely this by the way, That when his Agents & Factors in *India* presumed they had, or might have sent from thence, *An.* 1645. and 1646. (either upon Mr. *Courtens* own account, or in partnership $\frac{7}{16}$ in sundry ships, or bottomes, *viz.* the *Great-William*, the *Tho.* and *Jo.* ship *Hester*, and ship *Sun*, &c.) an estate of, or near twenty thousand pounds, or upwards, proved but about five thousand pound, and that left at *Liverne* by the said Cap. *J. B.* in the hands of the *East-India* Companies Agent there (as reported) and by him long detained, which with the Premises hath wholy interrupted and supplanted him in the course of his Trade, and supplies of his Factories and Plantations in *India*, and much prevented the payment of debts both here and there, as also the Customes of *Raiapore* contracted with *Mustapha Con.* to whom the said *Joh. F.* (with extraordinary charge to his imployer) went to *Vizapore An.* 1645. purposely (when all supplies failed) to conclude and take off the dead charge of contracted Customes of 2500. pag. gr. *per an.* which is about 1125 l. *per an. English*, but what was done therein, is to me altogether unknown and uncertain, onely gather from common report, that the said *Mustapha Con.* and his governour at *Raiapore* (or others in their stead) still requires the same from the present Traders (the Old and New *East-India* Company from whence peradventure they may pretend themselves Creditors, notwithstanding they have

Their practise.

Jo. F. government.

20000 l. or thereabouts supposed, sent home in sundry ships

5000 li. left at Livorne.

Mr. Courten supplanted.

Raiapoor Customes 1125 li. per an.

Plea for the same

have wholly deprived and disabled him at home, and abroad of all supplyes and payments, yet peradventure he must be pretended a great Debtor to the present Traders for the same.

Thus you have the conclusion and sad Catastrophe of *William Courten* Esquire, and his *East-India* Trade, together with divers of the passages, transactions, and Mysteries thereto apperMr. Courten's Catastrophe. His friends inconstancy, his destruction their best foundation.
taining, formerly by himselfe and others freely and frequently communicated to his foresaid Associates, and supposed Friends, now by them transferr'd to his profest Adversaries, whose principles and practises therein hitherto never declared them good Common-wealths-men, but rather contrary; but now proceeding upon another's principles and foundation, better things may be expected.

YEt further for information; If neither the consideration of the good successe and government of forreigne Nations, nor fifty years sad and wofull tryall of our owne Nation, nor the generall forbearance of those of experience (and enricht at home and abroad by that imployment) to adventure in their joynt Stock, nor the unwillingnesse of the former Mannagers (though most incompetent) to resigne to others, (for errours accustomed, as aforesaid, are not easily removed) nor the abasing and villifying of our owne Natives, and native Commodities under one Buyer, and Exporter, nor the advancing and enriching of Forreigners, and forreigne Commodities under one Seller and Importer, nor the prevention of the increase and imployment of abundance of Ships, Mariners, and Merchandizers, nor the generall prevention of Arts, Industries, and Manufactures, many by restraint forced (contrary to their affections and abilities) to some unpleasing home-bred imployments, with many other Morall respects; yet in a religious consideration and observation, those that beleeve History and Mystery, Divine and Humane to be inseparable, co-operating concomitants in the course of Gods providence, to accomplish the Decree, and the good pleasure of his Will revealed in his Word, either for weale or woe, (whether to Person, Nation, Society, or Incorporation) will plainly perceive, that the supine neglect of Plantations, relating to the great worke of Creation, likewise the neglect of Evangelicall injunctions, and dispensations by Gospell promulgations, and propagations, relating to the glorious worke

Informations, considerations, and reasons.

Morall and religious considerations.

Creation, and Redemption.

Heavie Judgements.

Common-wealth prevented, 8. or 1000000. li. per annum.

The Embleme displayed.

Whither one, two, or no joynt Stocks best.

Two better then one.

Ireland considerable.

A foundation laid in bloud shall not prosper.

of Redemption, are transgressions of a high provocation; and who knowes but for this very cause, Heaven may be justly offended? then must earth of necessity be punished, and so the judgements and designes of worldly wise men infatuated, and blasted, and thus this Common-wealth already becomes frustrated, and prevented of a probable possibility (compar'd with the *Dutch*) of profit and advance at least 8. or 1000000. li. *per annum*, besides Honours, and other Emoluments unconceiveable; And (according to the Embleme and Motto in the Frontispeece) Whither the deviation of this Company in point of *Policy*, or the Aberration of the Papacy in point of *Piety* be of greater extent and transcendencie, is a Riddle for me too high to reach; I cannot read: but surely both their dayes are numbred, and ere long their yeares will be expired; but I would not willingly enter into a Controversie (being sensible of my owne insufficiency) but rather humbly submit, and commit the same to the grave judgements of those at the Helme, and in Authority, whether one or two joynt Stocks, or none (save regulated Societies, or Associations for *East-India* Trade, are most requisite and necessary to advance, and enrich this Common-wealth) though former experience here clearly evinceth to all (if joynt Stocke must be continued) two better then one, and that for many good reasons? But if the Common-wealth of *Ireland* be included, then doubtlesse without dispute, upon undeniable grounds, two at least will be of absolute necessity, and in the apprehension of some of experience, a second constitution may have a farre better foundation (in this worst time of Trade) then the former, and so expect better successe; for to some of observation and judgement, it rests yet very doubtfull (for I must neither dawb nor dissemble) whether this be not laid deep in bloud and Oppression, as the premises partly discovers; besides much more may be said to that particular, wherein I will be sparing.

A good foundation and constitution.

New doctrine to the old Company.

But seeing this Discourse hath led us thus farre, let us proceed a little further, and consider that a good foundation and constitution ought to be laid and framed, on, and upon the best principles, and grounded upon the best reasons; which doctrin of Trade, however new to the Old *East-India* Company (who for their time therein ought to be Teachers) because opposite or di-

verse

verſe from their general Government & concluding it il hitherto; yet it ſhall alſo be ſo true and rationall, for Information, Confirmation, and Confutation, that (I hope) 'twill (in knowing judgements) hardly admit any oppoſition or contradiction, and ſhall be briefly included in two or three lines, being Principles or Poſitions gathered from ſerious, long, and laborious conſideration, obſervation and experience, *Engliſh, Dutch*, and *Portugall*, for the good of this Common-wealth, as followeth, viz.

For information, confirmation, and confutation.

Three East-India Principles.

Three *East-India* Principles, (*i. e.*)

1. *That none reſident in England can governe East-India Trade, but in a known way of prejudice to generall Adventurers.*

2. *That none reſident in India (under a forreigne Government) can mannage that Trade, but greatly diſhonour and damnifie this Common-wealth.*

3. *That no place or places, now poſſeſt by any Engliſh there much conſiderable [ſave Carwar] one of Mr.* Courtens *Factories.*

With the two firſt, relating to the Company, I will not meddle further, till they finde oppoſition.

With the laſt, more particularly relating to Mr *Courten*, I will a little expatiate in ſome Carwar conſiderations, to illuſtrate the ſame.

Some Carwar Conſiderations demonſtrating the ſame laſt Principle, viz.

That it is the free purchaſe and poſſeſſion of Sir *William Courten*, with a great ſumme of money many yeares ſince.

That it is built, fortified, and maintained ever ſince, with extraordinary care and coſt, and that it is moſt commodiouſly ſituated for Road, Bay, River, and ground, for a generall Randezvouz to and fro all parts of *India*, for order and regulation.

Note that all these particulars are of absolute necessity, besides, the capacity of the place will containe a Colony, or Plantation of 10000. people, more apt and fit for imployment there, upon every occasion by Sea and Land, then from *England* in many yeares can be attained.

Dutch valuation of Carwar.

And I am very confident if the *Dutch* once possesse it, as they have often desired, that 100000 li. ready money will not redeeme it out of their hands.

And in point of Government, it is most necessary for a generall Court of Merchants, not only for disposing, ordering, and regulating, but also for preventing private and other inconveniences in Trade, without the unconceiveable damage of delay, and in that equipage much prevent those continuall disturbances, injuries, and oppressions from Christians and Heathens hitherto sustained.

Likewise it will secure and secret both persons, and all sorts and quantities of Commodities, from force, or notice of the Natives, with great advantage to the Adventurers, which in the course of the old Company never was, or can be done, either at *Surrat*, or *Bantam*, their Meteropolitan Factories, and prevent a losse in sale of goods (besides Customs) of 10. or 12. *per cent.* at least, which under a forreigne government cannot be avoyded.

Furthermore, there is store of Timber to build Vessels, with one halfe of the charge usuall at *Surrat*, also up the river at *Cadran*, and thereabouts only, is that admirable Timber of *Teca*, for Planke and Sheathing under water, a singular preservative against that common ship-destroying water-worme.

It is also the only Pepper Coast from *Cape bon Esperanze*, to *Cape Commereen*, or *Cammereen*, and the only knowne coast in the world for *Cardamomes*, or *Graines of Paradize*, (a generall Commodity,) with many moe accommodations for trade and shipping for the benefit of Adventurers, too tedious to relate.

Moreover, it is scituate neare *Sulset*, a pleasant and fertile place (about a Counties compasse, inhabited by *Portugall*, *Cannereen* Christians, living under oppression, being willing and of power to free themselves, and desirous the *English* were in a capacity to protect them, which (well peopled) in case of Controversie, would curbe and controle as well the *Portugall*, as others, and the only meanes to become there and elsewhere checkmate with the *Dutch*, who are now become Lords, and Protectors

over

over all *India*, by the Companies ſubmiſsion, neglect, and generall bad Goverument. Much more might be ſaid in point of propriety, and otherwiſe if occaſion preſent.

If one of Mr. *Courtens* Factories ſo well ſcituated, purchaſed, planted, fortified, and defended (with the charge at leaſt of 20000. li. hitherto) with all or more adjuncts and accommodations then formerly expreſt) can be of ſuch high conſequence and concernment in relation to that Trade, as indeed it is; and if all the Companies Factories in *India* put together, cannot afford ſcarſe any one of theſe particulars, either for ſcituation or accommodation, as indeed they cannot; for the *Dutch* can diſturbe the Nations, and ſo diſplace them at pleaſure; then of neceſsity it muſt be concluded of more value then any, or all poſſeſt there by any other *Engliſh* whatſoever. And that it might be made knowne to the Company, and new Modellers to be ſo in deed, and in truth, and to prevent the loſſe thereof, I thought it not amiſſe (*intr. alias*) to certifie ſo much in writing in *December*, 1649. delivered Mr. *M. T.* and by him ſaid to be communicated to the *Mandareen*, or Gove. nour, &c. of the ſaid Company, and for theſe ten or twelve yeares by paſt, I have not been ſparing, or penurious either of my paines, or papers, at my owne coſt and charge, but rather prodigall and ſuperfluous (though to my exceeding great prejudice) to inform and beget a true, and right underſtanding of this Trade of Trades (for the good of this Common-wealth) both amongſt the Nobility, Gentry, Commonalty, as (amongſt many others) may appeare by a large Paper-booke, left with that worthy Patriot Sir *H. M.* ſome yeares ſince, and a bundle of Papers of the ſame ſubject left with Mr. *M. T.* above ſeven yeares agoe, when they had their firſt induction, and were Novices therein, and from whence Mr. *Courten*, and others relating to him (and not by revelation or experience of one Voyage) they had ſuch informations and inſtructions in the knowledge and myſteries of that Trade, that they are and may be taken for the beſt preſent judgements of that Society, becauſe of their Principles, yet (for a common good) let them not preſume too much thereupon, for it will ſurely come to paſſe, that many former tranſ-actions of that Trade with other Nations, or our owne, may come in controverſie, where want of experience and knowledge in ſome, may command their ſilence, and want of

Carwar coſt and conſequence.

Dutch can diſturbe when they pleaſe.

New Modellers warned to prevent loſſe of Carwar.

The Authors letter.

His paines and charge.

His damage.

Nobility, Gentry, Commonalty.

Sir H. M. above three yeares ſince.

Mr. M. T. &c. inductions and inſtructions.

Beſt Judgements and Principles.

An admonition.

Want of experience, or will may prejudice.

will in others for ſhame, or by reſpects of damage, or diſhonour, may cauſe forbearance; and ſo a good Cauſe and the Common-wealth may ſuffer, for want of men of integrity, and ability, hitherto neglected, and ſleighted; and as on the one ſide by violence, ſo on the other by their cloſe and ſubtile dealing (ſuppoſed thereby much to diſable Mr. *Courten* to pay wages, and debts to his Factors, which reſts upon their owne conſcience, diſcoveries, and ſo the diſpoſing of that 5000. li. at *Livornia*, being a ſpeciall motive to his travell and abſence, and that principall Plea for the Statute iſſuing. But I make too great a digreſsion.

The Authors grievance.

5000. li. cauſed travel, that the Statute, &c.

Yet it comes into my minde, that it will be very neceſſary firſt to anſwer ſome Objections that may be made by ſome, in behalfe of the foreſaid Company. viz.

Some will here Object, and ſay, *You bring ſtrange and uncouth things to us indeed, which we ſcarce ever heard of, the* East-India *Company we know in City, Court,* Weſtminſter Hall, *have abundantly exclaimed, and enveyed againſt Mr.* Courten *publickly, and frequently before the late King, and this preſent Parliament, by pleadings and printings, exhibited to Lords, Commons, and ſundry Committees, &c. and elſewhere; if you can, lets know the matter.*

Another objection.

'Tis very true, they have ſo indeed, and all about interloping Trade, and depradations, which depradations they are bound to make good (as themſelves ſay in their ſix ſmooth printed Arguments) and if to make good others depradations, then ſurely much more their owne; But their actions hitherto are altogether contrary to their expreſſions, and they proceed to inſtance their ſmart thereby, as it lyes in the latter end of their fifth Argument (as I remember) ſaying, *C.* and *E.* in the red Sea, and Capt. *W.* in *China*, and at *Meſulapatan*, &c.

Part of their 5. Argument.

The deepeſt waters commonly make leaſt noiſe; well, but to matter of Fact, *viz. C.* and *E.* in the *Red-ſea*, &c. This *C.* and *E.* it ſeems by Mr. *Endimion Porter*, the late Queen and others, purchaſed a Patent under the Great-Seal of *England* for a *Red-ſea* voyage, being there, tis probable they took and robbed ſome *Moores* Veſſels or Junks, trading thither from *India*; that done, *C.* and *E.* went to *Molalah* (one of the foure *Maiotte*-Iſlands near *Madagaſcar* as reported) to trim and victuall; and

C. and E. Matter of fact.

ſo

so in the interim, the complaint came by the *Moores* from the *Red-sea*, to *India*, and procured an Arrest upon the Companies President there, (as it was afterwards related in *England*) thereupon the said President dis-speeded the said Companies ship *Discovery* from *Surrat* (Mr. *J. P.* Commander) who arriving at *Molalah* aforesaid, found and seized upon the said *C.* and *E.* and their ship or ships, as they were triming and refreshing there, and so served them as they had done the *Moores*, took from them what they had (making prize of them) brought all their stoln goods to the foresaid President for the said *East-India* Company, and (if we may beleeve the report of one well knowing the passage) the Company got thereby ten or twelve thousand pound, and made no satisfaction to the *Moores*, but whether they did or no, what is all this to Mr. *Courten*, more then to the Man in the Moon? that they should (even against common reason) so continually and violently urge it, to the great damage and dishonour of Mr. *Courten*; for if those *Moores* had been *Mallabars* (who likewise traded thither) then Mr. *Courten* had furthered a designe for his own destruction, which is absurd to imagine? But this clearly confirms my principles from themselves in that particular of living under a forreigne government, what inconveniences, damage and dishonour they are subject to continually without remedy, as well under heathens as Christians? Besides, it was ordinary twenty or thirty years agoe (when the said Company had more power and credit in *India* then I suppose now they have) for the Presidents of *Surrat* (when their ships (according to the season) were gone thence) to be not onely imprisoned, but *Chawbucks* or *Strapte*, or sore threatned, for their owne depredations, or other misdemeanours, or disgust given to the *Moores* when there was no *C.* or *E.* in that Country, witnesse Mr. *K.* (now, or late of their Committee) who was twice President there, likewise Mr. *R.* and others, therefore this President (if there had been no *C.* and *E.*) must not look to scape better then his predecessors; this onely would have been the difference, he would have borne it with silence as the rest did, but these frivolous and unreasonable clamours too plainly demonstrate some other cause, which they are not willing to expresse in plaine tearms, which could be no other then an evill eye at his *India* Trade, and that likewise they might

Comp. Pr. arrested.

Jo. P. surprised C. and E.

Mr. T. K.

Com. plea unreasonable and absurd.

Principles confirmed from themselves.

Mr. T. K. M. R. twice Presidents imprisoned, &c.

Comp. discoveries an evill eye

A mystery. All factories recalled.

might have prevented if there had not been some mystery therein; for when Mr. *Courten* presently after his fathers death (it seems) recalls all his Fathers Factories in *Europe*, *Asia*, *Africa*, and *America*, (onely this of *East-India*) and of this an overture or proffer (with considerable losse) was made, when the voyage was but newly begun, and exceeding hopefull; but that proffer was refused (by report) upon very unreasonable tearms, for causes best known to themselves, and which I leave to others to imagine, as to that Company, but as to Mr. *Courten*, I will give this note upon it, That in the least (thereby it appears) he intended not to be a Merchant, his education being far otherwise, but thereto meerly constrained by an accidentall Executorship, as by his present revocation of all trade, and endeavouring this, plainly appeared.

East-India Trade proferred.

Dutch design of Dr. and Ka. known or suspected.

Mr. Courten never intended a Merchant.

The Moors apprehensions of the industrious English.

But as concerning the Presidents at *Surrat*, if they have scaped better of late years then formerly; truly the best reason that can be rendred thereof, is the Expedition of Sir *William Courten*, for the *Moores* at *Surrat* then perceiving that the industrious *English* could finde trade enough elsewhere, would use them with more civility, lest they should be deprived of them, and their money, other reason I know none.

Mr. G. Councel late K. &c. 10 Decem. 1639.

But I well remember this very particular of *C.* and *E.* was vehemently urged by Mr. *G.* (then the Companies Councell, and Cities Recorder) before the late King, and a full Councel-board the tenth of *December*, 1639. when the said Companie prevented the Earles of *A.* and *S.* their planting *Mauritius* and *Madagascar* Islands (no little discourtesie to this Commonwealth) and the said *G.* and Company still pressing earnestly this businesse of *C.* and *E.* against Mr. *Courten*; The King then suddenly rose up, and spake to the said Company thus: *Gentlemen*, I pray let me hear no more of it, and what you have suffered by it, I will see it satisfied some other way; but for Mr. *Courten* to my knowledge he had nothing to do with it: yet notwithstanding this testimony, the search and view of accounts, and what other satisfaction could be desired, they still persisted by troops (having *Baals* oddes, and *Demetrius*'s advantage) to solicite Parliament and Committees with the same continually for many yeares together, and never could prove any thing, being impossible in relation to Mr. *Courtens* depredations,

The Dutch presently possest Mauritius wholly, and setled upon Madagascar.

The late Kings testimony.

Baals Odds.

and

and for that very cause of depredations ('twas reported) Sir *William Courten* would never adventure with the said Company, but I rather thinke his judgement did therein direct him (being an extraordinary industrious and judicious Merchant) perceiving the said Company in no rationall or thriving way of management, or govemement. Sir Wil. Courtens reason.

But it so came to passe afterward, that Mr. *Courten* was admitted by a Committee to prove the said Companies depredations (which was by some conceived an extraordinary courtesie) but the first witnesse was no sooner entered upon discovery, but was presently silenced, and suffered to proceed no further, and therefore formerly whosoever solely appeared to oppose them, must first be sure of *Micaiah's* cause and confidence, and *Paul's* perswasion and full assurance, as it was long since with Mr. *R. S.* (before he was a Parliament man in opposition to Sir *H. G.* Sir *N. C.* Mr. *C.* Mr. *M.* (and the rest of that then Royall Company not a few) who pleaded boldly and judiciously before a Committee in the inner Chequer Chamber (Sir *H. V. senior* Chareman) who very discreetly noting the advantage of oddes, gave him good encouragement in the prohibition of their uncivill interruption. And thus much concerning *C.* and *E.* shall suffice. Comp. depredations. Micaiah and Paul. Mr. R. S. now an hon. Member of State. Pep Con. Sir H. V. senior C. & E. ended.

NOw to proceed *viz.* And Captaine *W.* in *China*, and at *Mesulapatan*, &c. Here's news indeed! Cap. *W.* in *China*! for he was the first *English-man* in *China* that ever traded upon *English* account. But if you will know the reason in good earnest, why both *Dutch* and *English* so rage and envy thereat, you will finde it to be this, The fear of damage, by competition, in the one, and of shame and dishonour in the other: For if ever the *English* attain a *China* and *Japan* Trade (which will be very difficult now) and all, or part of their right in the Spice Islands, and elsewhere, as *Ormus*, &c. (all hitherto with incredible prejudice neglected) and then the same managed with discretion, the *Dutch* will soon finde and feel a diminution of their present wealth and glory? Cap. W. in China, part of their fifth Argument. Dutch and English true reasons, not their pretended difference with the Portugals. Dutch Doubts.

And as for the *English*; What a shame and dishonour to them after forty or fifty years experience, to be taught the principle of *East-India* Trade by one never there? (as indeed they were then by Sir *William Courten*) and at present by Mr. *T.* and ample. Eng fear, and shame. Sir Wil. Courtens new doctrine and ex-

and the new Modellers proceeding upon the very same grounds and principles) and that in one voyage, if his designe had not been envied and maligned (and the *Dragon* and *Katherine* come home as well as the *Sunne*) would probably have more then cleared the first adventure of 150000 li. and have left a considerable stock and foundation of Trade for posterity, far better then the Companies, then having no foundation with all their expence of time, and vast stocks of Nationall treasure, the like never known in *Europe*; And for these reasons principally it highly concerned both parties to endevour and agree his ruine.

First return clear first Advent.

Comp. then no foundation.

Fort St. George built since by A. C.

The *Dutch* being very well content with the Companies subjection, and poasting Traffique, because they can disturb the Natives, then accounting them their enemies, and so out them at pleasure, when, and where they list, by prohibiting the *English* all trade and traffique with them upon pain of confiscation of ship and goods, which the Company must not disobey, as formerly expresst.

The Dutch content with Comp. traffick.

Eng. outed at pleasure.

Well: Cap. *W.* from *China* passes the *Dutch* Pikes through the straights of *Malacca* with much ado, as aforesaid, and came to *Masulapatan* upon the Coast of *Chormandel*, being there, the Companies Factors (contrary to their Commissions and Orders, yet in self-love) seemed very well pleased with their comming thither, and after some complements, the said Factors discovered at last their present necessities (the chiefe motive to their pretended courtesie) and made it their request to Capt. *W.* to borrow of him one thousand pounds, alleadging that their expected supplies failed, and so their Factories on that Coast were in great want; hereupon Capt. *W.* courteously supplies them with one thousand pounds, and this was all the mischiefe that hitherto I ever heard he did them, at least maintaining their credits (if not preserving their lives.)

Cap. W. at Mesulipatan.

The Comp. necessiry.

Cap. W. courtesie.

1000 li. borrowed.

But this, and many more hath been requited the cleane contrary way, as plentifully appears by this Discourse; and whether this 1000 li. was paid again to Captaine *W.* or any other for Mr. *Courten*, I certainly know not; but this I know, that one of the said Companies Factors late in *India*, was credibly reported to deliver himself in these, or the like words openly and plainly, *viz.* That if he list, he could make it appeare how the *East-India* Company did owe Mr. *Courten* 1000 li. (besides the 5000 li. formerly

Comp. contrary requitals.

Mr. E. K.

1000 li. debt doubtfull.

formerly mentioned, which ſurely was conceived to be meant of this foreſaid thouſand pounds being unpaid.

And thus you have the reaſons and cauſes (in my apprehenſion) of thoſe their long and lamentable out-cryes, and inſupportable prejudices and ſmartings (as themſelves terme them) and if any other can hereafter be diſcovered then what is formerly expreſt, I hope 'twill be no hard taske to ſee them truly and fully anſwered, unleſſe by mentioning and adjoyning therewith, Sir *K. D.* aſſault of the *Venetians* in the Road of *Scandaroone*, if they lay that to Mr. *Courtens* charge, truly then Mr. *Courten* himſelfe, or ſome other for him, muſt come and ſee that imputation anſwered, and removed, for I cannot therein ſay any thing on his behalfe, therefore I muſt be excus'd. Reaſons and cauſes frivolous. Sir K. D. if imputed, the Author excus'd.

But I have made my digreſſion farre greater then I expected, now I come to the Letter formerly promiſed, whoſe long ſilence (receiving no anſwer) put me into a muſe, and at laſt I reſolved to give ſummons to my treacherous memory, to try whether or no I had writ that briefly, or in a Myſtery, which I could not explaine more largely, as in this confuſed diſcourſe, or hiſtory; and now followes the ſaid Letter *verbatim*, which was principally intended to ſecure *Canar* for future advance of Trade. Too long digreſſion. The Authors reſolution.

The Letter, i. e.

SIR, or *SIRS:*

THe product of former Diſcourſes runs into this reſult; That whereas the *Eaſt-India* Company (and their Accomplices, and Adherents) have ſundry wayes and times ſadly manifeſted, their great diſlike of that juſt and legall expedition of Sir *William Courten* Knight deceaſed, as by the wofull experience of *William Courten* Eſq; his Son, Friends, Creditors, and faithfull Factors and Planters plainly appeareth.

Yet if any Chriſtian remorſe or conſideration may conduce for a ſpeedy attonement for advance of Trade, and incouragement of the intended ſubſcription, and removall of all obſtacles, and animoſities poſſible for the better clearing a way for the new Modell to paſſe into an Act, whoſe frame and foundation (for ought yet appearing (ſave the Authority and Coyne of the Commons of

England) seemes plainly to be laid upon the hidden and remaining Basis of the aboveſaid Sir *William*, and his Sonne, &c. in the ruine and deſtruction of their Trade, Shipping, Factors, Factories, and Plantation of *Madagaſcar* by the Parties aboveſaid, done, and procured as in due time may be demonſtrated.

And ſeeing nothing now remaines to the Proprietor (or other wel-willers to that Trade on his behalfe (ſave *Carwar*) howſoever ſleighted or neglected by ignorant, inconſiderate *Engliſh*, and preſent undertakers; yet I am confident, (and that upon good grounds) if the *Dutch* get poſſeſſion (as they have often deſired) and as ('tis ſaid) they have already *Cannanore*, (for they are wiſe, and diſcreet Merchants indeed) 100000. li. ready money (as formerly often expreſt) will not regaine it out of their hands, ſeeing it is of more conſequence then all places poſſeſt in *India* by any other *Engliſh* whatſoever at preſent; And if ſo, as in truth it is, then it highly concernes the new Modellers ſpeedily to ſecure the ſame for recovery of that Trade (if poſſible) and for the good of this Common-wealth, ſeeing the Proprietor, and all others by their former and preſent proceedings, are now wholly and altogether prevented to ſupply the ſame.

But as hitherto, ſo now, that nothing may be wanting on the Plaintiffes part (if it wil not be thought preſumption in a mean and private perſon, a common wel-willer) of himſelfe to make an Overture by way of Propoſall, which doubtleſſe would be wel pleaſing both to God and good men (if agreed upon) eſpecially to the foreſaid Company, whether New or Old (if rightly underſtood) the ſaid party further preſuming in time convenient, to procure the conſent of the foreſaid Plaintiffe, and other parties therein concern'd, though the ſum propoſed be not a fifth, or rather a tenth part of the damage ſuſtained; As by particulars, (beſides bloud, and other prejudice to the Common-wealth (as he conceives) may be made plainely to appeare. Therefore thus:

It is well knowne that about 5000. li. and two braſſe Guns, beyond *Cape bon Eſperanze* were ſurreptitiouſly got, and upon all demands there denyed, and (as 'tis ſaid) coyned and converted (in their great neceſſity) to their owne uſe; which ſaid ſum and Guns there ſo unjuſtly detained (with intereſt and inſurance here added) would amount in all this time (conſidered either in courſe

course of Trade from *Madraſpatan* to *Bantam*, ſo to *Jambee*, then againe for *Bantam*; ſo for *England*, ſeverall returnes without diſaſter, or conſidered according to intereſt of *Dutch-Batavia*, or *Achen* Factory, whether it was conſign'd) would I ſay amount to 20000 li. and upwards, &c. which ſumme, the one moyetie forthwith for *India* to diſcharge the debts there (and by that imployment contracted) to the Natives, for the honour of the Nation, and freedome of Trade; And to others, whoſe faithfulneſſe is approved in that imployment; The other moyetie towards ſatisfaction of Creditors here in *England* in time convenient, and ſo all differences of damages dye, and all parties acquieſſe, the one in their cruel, unreaſonable, and uncharitable ſpoyle, whoſe caſe can be no better: The other in his ſad and unparalleld ſufferings, whoſe condition can be no worſe.

Sir, You may perceive the premiſes points at ſundry particular perſons, and things of concernment, and therein your ſelfe not the leaſt in regard of former paſſages and firſt ingagement, and you may conceive what content, or profit, a happy or ſpeedy attonement might procure to each particular (eſpecially the *East-India* Company, the new Modellers, and Common-wealth, (if duly conſidered, all which) I referre to your more ſerious thoughts to move therein, as God and your owne conſcience can beſt direct you; let not the truth offend you:

London 25 of *December*
1649. Delivered Mr. *T.*
Exc. 28. Dct.

Your humble Servant
I. D.

This melancholly Letter implicitly, is the ſumme or ſubſtance of moſt of this Diſcourſe, in relation to the *East-India* Company, and preſent Traders (the propoſall and proceed of that 5000 li. excepted) and was principally intended for the preſervation of *Carwar* for the good of this Commonwealth, as formerly expreſt.

And ſeeing I have likewiſe intimated ſomething concerning the Iſland of *Barbadoes*, &c. in the *Weſt-Indies*, I ſhall attend the pleaſure of Authority or others, to deliver the beſt of my knowledge therein: In the mean time I will cloſe, and conclude both, in this generall Aſſertion, and particuler Application thus:

Assertion.

That no Lord, or Commoner, or ſociety of Commoners, in or out of England, *hath ſo good (if any) reall and perſonall claime, Right and Propriety, in, or to the* East-India, Mallabar, Acheen, *and* China *Trade, &c. or in or to the Iſland of* Barbado's, *&c. in the* West-Indies, *as Mr.* Courten, *or others in his behalfe.*

The Epilogue.

THus far, Sir, I have laboured (alone) in the diſcharge of this my duty, with as much plainneſſe and perſpicuity as I can, to informe your ſelfe, and others of the truth of the Premiſes: And if any doubt or ſcruple ſhould be made, touching any part or parcell thereof, I queſtion not but the ſame may be ſatisfied.

I had my Induction here into this work the foreſaid 10. *Decem.* 1639. at Councell-table (long before I knew, or was known to Mr. *Courten*) where, and when I perceived (from the principall perſon there preſent) that publick affairs ran too much upon the byas of particular profit or intereſt (the bane of all Commonwealths proceedings:) And what paines and attendance hath been given therein upon all occaſions, is partly knowne to divers Lords and Gentlemen, as well as your ſelfe, gaining my labour for my travell.

* Great loſſe and hazards, and marvailous deliverances, I hope for good.

Beſides, I am very ſenſible what * prejudice I have ſuſtained thereby, both from the *East-India* Company, and others therein concerned: And yet truth (which is ſtrongeſt) hath hitherto exceedingly appeared in my weakneſſe, againſt ſuch mighty oppoſitions, and hath almoſt accompliſhed my aimes, and the hopes of my deſires (the reward of my paines) which was, and

is, To ſee the *Eaſt-India* Trade (of ſuch high concernment) a State, and Commonwealths buſineſſe; and willingly will give my further attendance therein (if thereto required) according to that ſmall talent of knowledge and experience God hath given me.

And ſo now I commit this Diſcourſe wholly to your further care and conſideration, to move therein as your wiſdome and judgement can beſt direct you, and ſo henceforth poſſeſſe my ſelfe with patience and in reſt, and confidence, in beleeving attend (if peradventure) after a ſad and gloomy night of ſorrow and adverſity, a glad and joyfull morning of redreſſe and proſperity, will ariſe upon that deep, diſtreſſed, and oppreſſed family. And in this expectation reſolve to abide, Sir,

Your very humble Servant,

John Darell.

FINIS.

Errata's.

Page 5. line 25. read tending, p. 7. l. 15. r. of, l. 25. r. Sir, p. 20. l. 5. r. factors and, p. 30. l. 8. r. and diſcoveries, l. 10. r. a principall.

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19. *June* 1651. Imprimatur

Nath. Brent.